

# MEMORANDUM

**To:** EPA Administrator Pruitt and Staff  
**Subject:** 5.22.18 Western Caucus Members Only Lunch Meeting and Speaker Series

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## **What:**

**Western Caucus Monthly Member-Only Meeting with EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt** | Tuesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> | 12:00-1:00 p.m. | 2247 RHOB | Catered lunch provided  
EPA Administrator Pruitt will present, take questions and engage in discussion with our members on their priorities for the entirety of this lunch.

## **Background:**

For the format, Congressional Western Caucus Chairman Paul Gosar kicks off with an update, then we go around the room and members introduce themselves. Then the Administrator will have 10-15 minutes to present. Then we open it up to questions or comments from members, generally limiting to one per member. Usually turns into more of a roundtable discussion. Always try and get a group picture for social media if we can. Our folks are pretty laid back and don't usually take any shots at these lunches.

The Congressional Western Caucus is a congressionally sanctioned organization that has existed since 1993 and currently comprised of 78 bipartisan members of the House. Kurt Schrader is currently the one Democrat. He is planning to attend the first 30 minutes of the meeting.

Western Caucus members are dedicated to:

- protecting private property rights
- strengthening local control
- fostering economic growth
- preserving multiple-use of public lands
- increasing energy independence
- managing healthy forests
- and ensuring safe domestic food production for American families

The Caucus was founded out West to fight federal overreach, promote rural values and preserve our uniquely American way of life. Over time, the Caucus has grown beyond the West, allying with Members of Congress from all across the country who share its values and vision of a stronger America. More info about the Caucus can be found on it's website at <https://westerncaucus.house.gov>.

## **Important Issues to the Members:**

- **The Obama Administration's Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule**
  - Western Caucus recently passed an amendment to the Farm Bill to repeal WOTUS. More [HERE](#). 13 Democrats voted in favor of the amendment.
- **Scrapping the Obama Administration's Preemptive Veto of the Pebble Project**
  - Members of the Western Caucus support cancelling the proposed preemptive veto for the Pebble Project and recently called on Administrator Pruitt to honor that pledge. More [HERE](#).
- **The Clean Power Plan**
  - Members of the Western Caucus support repeal of the Clean Power Plan. More [HERE](#).

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- **Ending Secret Science at the EPA**
  - Members of the Western Caucus support the proposed rule, “Strengthening Transparency in Regulatory Science”. Would be good to discuss in detail.
- **The Endangerment Finding**
  - Western Caucus Members support repealing the Obama Administration’s endangerment finding.
- **Obama Administration’s 2015 Ozone Rule**
  - Western Caucus Members support repeal and efforts to minimize harm from the Obama Administration’s 2015 Ozone Rule. More [HERE](#).
- **Members will also likely have district specific priorities that they pitch.**

## **Other Statements from the Western Caucus on EPA Matters:**

- [Members of the Western Caucus Support Administrator Pruitt](#)
- [EPA Administrator Pruitt Takes Action to End ‘Sue and Settle’](#)
- [EPA Determines No Additional CERCLA Action Needed](#)
- [Western Caucus Members Support Proposed Rule Rolling Back WOTUS](#)
- [Western Caucus Members Praise Confirmation of Scott Pruitt as EPA Administrator](#)
- [Western Caucus Calls on Congress to Kill WOTUS Rule](#)